

Message Text

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72

ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 AGR-20 SWF-02 IGA-02 SAJ-01

SP-03 AID-20 NSC-07 RSC-01 CIEP-03 TRSE-00 SS-20

STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 /149 R

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EA/J:WPIEZ

INR/REC:MDRAY

EB/ORF/OFP/FPD:MBOERNER

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R 052124Z AUG 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 170179

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: EAGR

SUBJECT: SALE OF FERTILIZER PLANT (C-ER-4-58263)

A. FOR PREPARATION OF A REPORT, WE ARE INTERESTED IN INFORMATION ON SOVIET PURCHASES OF FERTILIZER PLANTS AND IN ANY SOVIET COMMITMENTS TO EXPORT FERTILIZER MATERIALS TO JAPAN. ACCORDING TO AN ARTICLE IN 24 JULY, MORNING EDITION, OF SANKEI SHIMBUN (PAGE 9T), MITSUI AND CO. LTD. RECEIVED A SOVIET ORDER FOR FOUR AMMONIA PLANTS VALUED AT \$270 MILLION. THE SAME NEWS ITEM INDICATED THAT THE USSR ALSO WANTS JAPAN TO FINANCE PURCHASE OF THESE PLANTS. MITSUI MAY BE WORKING WITH TOYO ENGINEERING CORPORATION ON THIS DEAL.

1. DOES MITSUI HAVE A FIRM CONTRACT TO SUPPLY FOUR AMMONIA PLANTS TO USSR? IF SO, WHEN WAS CONTRACT SIGNED AND WHAT IS TOTAL ANNUAL OR DAILY PRODUCTION CAPACITY OF
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FOUR PLANTS? IF CONTRACT HAS NOT BEEN SIGNED, WHEN IS

SIGNING EXPECTED?

2. WHAT ARE TENTATIVE OR ACTUAL SOVIET REPAYMENT TERMS?
IS THERE A JAPANESE COMMITMENT TO ACCEPT SOVIET AMMONIA
OR OTHER FERTILIZER MATERIALS TO HELP THE USSR REPAY
CREDITS IT MAY OBTAIN FROM JAPAN? IF SO, STATE TERMS
OF THIS TRADE (ANNUAL QUANTITIES OF EACH SOVIET MATERIAL
JAPAN WILL RECEIVE AND NUMBER OF YEARS INVOLVED.)

3. ARE NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY ON ANY OTHER JAPANESE SALES
OF FERTILIZER EQUIPMENT TO THE USSR? DOES JAPAN
ANTICIPATE ANY LONG-TERM AGREEMENT ON PURCHASE OF SOVIET
POTASSIUM OR PHOSPHATE FERTILIZERS OR RELATED RAW
MATERIALS?

B. A REPLY TO (1) AND (2) WOULD BE APPRECIATED BY 12
AUGUST AND A FINAL RESPONSE BY 15 AUGUST. IN RESPONSE
PLEASE CITE C-ER-4-58263. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SALES, FERTILIZERS, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, AMMONIA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE170179
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ELEANOR CARSON
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740213-0878
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740873/aaaackuh.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JUN 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <24 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SALE OF FERTILIZER PLANT (C-ER-4-58263) A. FOR PREPARATION OF A REPORT, WE ARE INTERESTED IN
TAGS: EAGR, JA, UR
To: TOKYO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005